



HOW MANY HELLOS ARE YOU AWAY FROM YOUR DREAM JOB?

FIND OUT HOW OTHERS HAVE SHAPED THEIR LIFESTYLES AND HOW THAT CAN HELP YOU

AIM

To prepare students to communicate effectively, to make good connections for future opportunities.

OBJECTIVES

- > To make students aware of the importance of connectedness.
- > To make students consider networking with contacts.
- > To make sure students are aware of, and attend, events that may be useful to them.

KEY VOCABULARY

- > Six degrees of separation
- > Connection
- > Communication
- > Networking

RESOURCES NEEDED

Whiteboard with connection to the UCAS Hub. Laptops if there's time for students to individually explore.

TOOLS TO USE IN THE UCAS HUB

- > Your events

INTRODUCTION (Discussion – ten minutes)

Introduce and discuss the ‘six degrees of separation’ theory.

Six degrees of separation is the theory that anyone in the world can be connected to anyone else in the world through a chain of ‘friend of a friend’, with no more than five people in between.

- > Proven in 2008 by Microsoft. Facebook claims it’s now down to three!

Explore the theory in class, with the rule that it has to be someone they have met in person, not just online.

Ask students for examples:

- > ‘Who knows someone who works in a theatre?’
- > ‘Who knows someone who’s travelled to America?’
- > ‘Who knows someone who’s been on TV?’

Make up your own questions, and challenge students to do the same.

Then move on to future careers:

- > ‘Who knows a scientist?’
- > ‘Who knows someone who works in computing?’
- > ‘Who knows someone who’s a textile designer?’

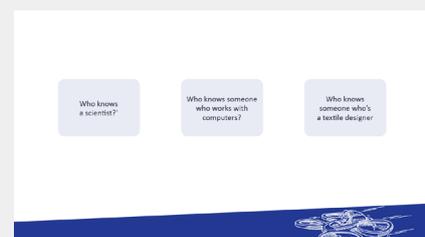
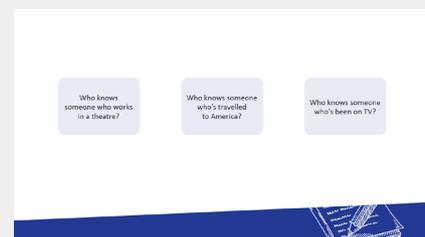
Make it work within your setting. Play around with how you do this...

Ask if there are any students who think they might know what kind of career they would like to go into. Then ask the class if they know of anyone in that industry. Chances are they will, and if not, keep the conversation moving until they do.

Suggest that this may be a good way to find contacts for work experience, or just a chat about future life. It’s networking in a professional sense.

Networking is about giving yourself a greater opportunity to find success. Particularly if it’s an opportunity you never knew about until your network presented it to you.

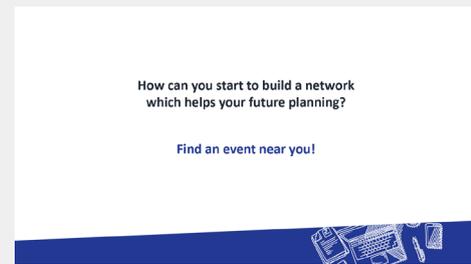
Good communication can be so useful in finding opportunities and solutions.



TEACHING FOCUS ACTIVITY (Ten minutes)

How can we meet more people who know things that might help future planning?

Using the whiteboard, highlight UCAS events and university open days near you on the UCAS Hub. These can be found in the 'Your events' tool.



EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Invite a local business in to talk about opportunities for graduates and apprenticeships. Ideally source both a graduate recruit and an apprentice to talk about their experiences.

PLENARY (Five minutes)

Plan questions that you might ask new contacts.

Write down what you want to know before you start your research. Make sure you have a variety of questions ready to make the most of networking opportunities, whether they are face-to-face, at UCAS events, apprenticeship fairs, or university open days.

HOMEWORK

Explore the 'Your events' tool in the UCAS Hub – including open days, and UCAS exhibitions. Record dates in the 'Notes' section of the Hub for those you're interested in. Follow up on any contacts made in the lesson.